

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAIRO 07468 301453Z

64

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 AGR-05 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 /041 W

----- 001401

R 301435Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5503

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 7468

E.O. 11652:NA

TAGS: EAGR EG

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURAL RENTS INCREASE

1. ON JUNE 23 PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY PASSED NEW REGULATION WHICH WILL INCREASE AGRICULTURAL RENTS PAID TO LANDLORDS BY TENANT FARMERS. 2.5 MILLION FEDDANS OF EGYPT'S 6 MILLION FEDDANS UNDER CULTIVATION ARE RENTED BY TENANTS WHO PAY RENT EQUAL TO 7 TIMES TAX ASSESSED ON PROPERTY. SMALL LANDOWNERS HAVE BEEN COMPLAINING TO GOVERNMENT THAT WITH TREMENDOUS INCREASE IN AGRICULTURAL WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PRICES THEY ARE BEING UNDERPAID FOR THEIR LAND. LARGE-SCALE RENT CHANGES HAVE NOT TAKEN PLACE SINCE 1952. IN RESPONSE, GOVERNMENT PROPOSED AND PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY ACCEPTED ACROSS-THE-BOARD INCREASE IN TAX BASE, THEREBY RAISING RENTS. OVERALL NATIONAL INCREASE IN RENTS PAID WILL BE 24.6 PERCENT, ACCORDING TO MINAGRICULTURE. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT RENTS WILL STILL BE BELOW PRE-LAND REFORM AVERAGES.

2. LEFTIST IN PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY RAISED STORM OF PROTEST OVER NEW LAW AND WERE VIGOROUSLY SECONDED BY POPULAR WEEKLY MAGAZINE ROSE AL-YUSUF, A STRIDENTLY PRO-SOVIET PUBLICATION. THESE CRITICS ALLEGED THAT LAW VIOLATES EGALITARIAN LAND REFORM POLICIES OF 1952 REVOLUTION. IN PARTICULAR, THEY OBJECTED TO PROVISION PERMITTING LANDOWNERS WHO SHARE EXPENSES WITH THEIR TENANTS TO ALSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAIRO 07468 301453Z

SHARE PROFITS. LEFTISTS COMPLAINED THAT POOR LANDOWNERS, WHO DO

NOT COMMAND EXTRA CAPITAL, WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BENEFIT FROM NEW
PROFIT SHARING OPPROTUNITIES.

3. MODERATE ASSEMBLY MEMBERS CLAIM PROHIBITION AGAINST OWNERSHIP
OF MORE THAN 50 FEDDANS OF AGRICULTURAL LAND BY ANY MALE OVER 21
OR MORE
THAN 100 FEDDANS PER FAMILY RENDERS THE LEFTIST CRITICISM
VIRTUALLY MEANINGLESS IN PRACTICAL TERMS. HOWEVER, DESPITE
VIGOROUS ASSEMBLY DEBATE ON ISSUE, IT DOES NOT YET APPEAR THAT
NASSERIST AND MARXIST GROUPS HERE ARE PREPARING FOR MAJOR CAMPAIGN
AGAINST NEW LAW ON
IDEOLOGICAL GROUNDS.
EILTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RENTS, AGRICULTURAL LAW, FARMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CAIRO07468
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750263-0179
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975075/aaaaaeie.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 JUL 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <23 DEC 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AGRICULTURAL RENTS INCREASE
TAGS: EAGR, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006